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(54) PRODUCTION OF N-ACETYL-D-GLUCOSAMINE

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To obtain the titled compound efficiently and safely without using synthetic method, by partially hydrolyzing chitin with an acid to give a mixture containing N-acetylchitooligosaccharide and treating the mixture with an enzyme and to make the titled compound usable in the field of foods.

CONSTITUTION: First chitin is partially hydrolyzed with an acid such as conc. hydrochloric acid to give a mixture containing N-acetylchitooligosaccharide. Then the mixture is used as a substrate and treated with an enzyme (e.g. chitinase) capable of hydrolyzing N-acetylchitooligosaccharide to give the aimed compound. The hydrolysis reaction with the enzyme is preferably carried out at 30W60°C for 12W60hr under a condition to convert the N-acetylchitooli gosaccharide to the aimed compound.